



Docket No.: 247707US-2

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/766,874

Applicants: Masahide YAMASHITA, et al.

Filing Date: January 30, 2004

For: CARRIER, DEVELOPER INCLUDING THE  
CARRIER AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS  
USING THE DEVELOPER

Group Art Unit: 1756

Examiner: RODEE, C.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Our check in the amount of **\$0.00** is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

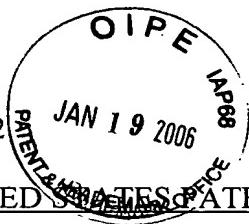
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DOCKET NO: 247707US-2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : :

MASAHIKE YAMASHITA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: RODEE, C.

SERIAL NO.: 10/766,874 : :

FILED: JANUARY 30, 2004 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1756

FOR: CARRIER, DEVELOPER INCLUDING  
THE CARRIER AND IMAGE FORMING  
APPARATUS USING THE DEVELOPER

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction requirement of December 20, 2005, Applicants elect, with traverse, the invention of Group I, Claims 1-9 and 17-21.

Applicants traverse the outstanding Restriction requirement on the grounds that it has not been established that it be an undue burden to examine each of the noted inventions and claims together.

Under M.P.E.P. § 803, a Restriction is not proper if a search and examination can be made without a serious burden on the Examiner, and the outstanding Restriction requirement has not established that examining each of the currently-pending claims together would result in an undue burden.

M.P.E.P. § 803 specifically states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

The outstanding Restriction requirement has not established that each of the claims could be examined without an undue burden, and thus each of the noted inventions and claims should be examined on their merits.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

  
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